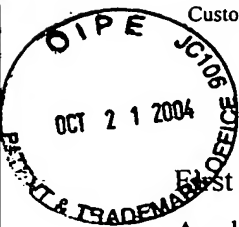


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Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 56160US015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BEDINGHAM, WILLIAM

Application No.: 10/698302

Group Art Unit: 2623

Filed: October 31, 2003

Examiner: B. Le

Title: AUTOMATED IMAGING AND HARVESTING OF COLONIES ON
THIN FILM CULTURE DEVICESINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTMail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Oct. 19, 2004

Date

Carrie M. Arcand

Signed by: Carrie M. Arcand

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner.

Copies of any cited foreign patents, foreign publications, non-patent literature documents; and any pending U.S. applications filed before June 30, 2003, are enclosed. Copies of any pending U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003 that can be accessed on the USPTO's IFW system are not enclosed as per USPTO Waiver dated September 21, 2004. Copies of any U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, but prior to the mailing of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311. Please charge the fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723, and if necessary, please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

10/22/2004 EAREGAY1 00000002 10698302

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Respectfully submitted,

Oct. 19, 2004

Date

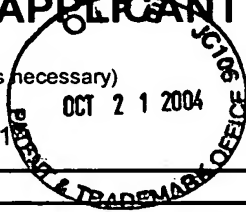
By: Daniel R. Pastirik

Daniel R. Pastirik, Reg. No.: 33,025

Telephone No.: (651) 737-2685

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

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|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1 | Application Number | 10/698302 |
| | Filing Date | October 31, 2003 |
| | First Named Inventor | Bedingham, William |
| | Art Unit | 2623 |
| | Examiner Name | B. Le |
| | Attorney Case Number | 56160US015 |



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| Exam. Init.* | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | Translation (Check if yes) |
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